



## MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2020

### **Statement from the Michigan Supreme Court on Matters Concerning Children:**

With schools closed and courthouses limiting operations to reduce exposure to COVID-19, parents who live apart might be confused about changing family situations and their court orders.

#### **Things to Remember**

The Supreme Court wants to remind parents that all court orders for a child's custody, parenting time and support are still in force. Only a new court order can change that. Parents should continue to follow their court order.

If future government decisions restrict travel or, if a child's safety is an issue, parents should work together to keep the child's access to both parents as close to the normal arrangement as possible. Remember that children might also be nervous about current events and need reassurance from parents. If it is necessary to share parental responsibilities in ways different than the court order provides, parents should cooperate with each other to further the child's best interests. If parents are not able to agree between themselves how to do this, their court order continues to control what they should do.

#### **Online Services**

Child support payment processing is expected to continue. However, if a person changes jobs or a court order changes, there may be a delay in updating automatic payment withholding from a paycheck. If a parent has child support obligations and money is not automatically withheld from his or her pay, the parent should be sure to make the payment through the [State Disbursement Unit](#). Parents can also make payments through [PayNearMe](#) at CVS Pharmacy, 7-Eleven, Family Dollar, and Casey's General Store.

Parents are encouraged to sign up for MiChildSupport to see their child support case online. To sign up, click [here](#).

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